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FILE NUMBER: 3-338-84-003-A  
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ABSTRACT

UNITED STATES ARMY COMBAT DEVELOPMENT COMMAND (CDC)  
COMBAT OPERATIONS LOSS AND EXPENDITURE DATA-VIETNAM  
(COLED-V), (Ammunition Expenditure Data), 1968-1970,  
(machine-readable data file) Created by CDC, Produced by  
CDC, National Archives and Records Administration  
(distributor)

TYPE OF FILE: Microdata. The units of observation are ammunition expenditure data of 24 types of ammunition as used by the U.S. Army for Fiscal Years 1968, 1969, and 1970 in South Vietnam.

UNIVERSE DESCRIPTION: The universe consists of ammunition expenditure data. The conditions under which the expenditure took place, intensity of engagement, terrain, targetfire, and type of ammunition used are data elements in these data sets.

SUBJECT MATTER DESCRIPTION: Beginning in 1966, the U.S. Army, responding to the United States military build-up in South Vietnam, ordered the Combat Development Command (CDC) to start organizing a data base to measure the expenditure of ammunition in South Vietnam by Army units. The result was the Combat Operations Loss and Expenditure Data-Vietnam. The data base, consisting of six data sets, was designed to assist the Army in planning for the appropriate allocation of ammunition. To this end, it was important to logistical personnel to determine the conditions under which the ammunition was expended, by which command, which unit, whether in daylight or in darkness, in rough terrain, in various types of weather, and the intensity of combat. Based on these findings, the Army hoped to determine where and what type of ammunition should be allocated to which unit. It was thought that this would alleviate the uneven distribution of ammunition that had been experienced in past wars. As the American presence began to diminish in South Vietnam, the project was transferred to the U.S. Army Depot Systems Command (HQDESCOM) in 1970.

GEOGRAPHIC IDENTIFIERS: Ammunition expenditure in South Vietnam by U.S. Army forces.

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION:

FILE STRUCTURE: Fixed length, non-hierarchical.

FILE SIZE: There are 243,664 records for Ammunition Expenditure for Fiscal Year 1968, 372,247 for Fiscal Year 1969, and 310,662 for Fiscal Year 1970 for a total of 926,573 records.

FILE SORT SEQUENCE: Arranged by Fiscal Year and thereunder by major command, activity, by date of action, and ammunition type.

REFERENCE MATERIAL: Background and technical information consisting of a briefing paper presented at the Project Advisory Group Meeting, August 8, 1969, record layouts, and codes are included as documentation. Agency documentation is supplemented by the Machine-Readable Branch of the National Archives consisting of an introduction and portions of computer printouts. The last three data sets have computer dumps in a print format because they contain text material and they are included with the documentation.

FILE AVAILABILITY: The file is currently available from:  
Machine-Readable Branch (NNSR)  
Special Archives Division  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Washington, D.C. 20408

QUOTATION: Includes codes, record layouts, Research Analysis Corporation Briefing (62pp.), punch card format, file description.

DATA SETS:

Ammunition Expenditure 1968. Data set name RG338.COLEDV.AE68.  
Ammunition Expenditure 1969. Data set name RG338.COLEDV.AE69.  
Ammunition Expenditure 1970. Data set name RG338.COLEDV.AE70.  
End Item Loss. Data set name RG338.COLEDV.EDNI.  
Item Name File. Data set name RG338.COLEDV.ITEM.  
Organization Name File. Data set name RG338.COLEDV.ORGN.